

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. Sheet media package system comprising:
packaging for holding a plurality of sheet media; and
a radio-frequency identification transponder associated with said package which can be communicated with, with or without physical contact with the transponder, and which stores relevant digital data.
2. The system of claim 1 wherein said packaging is a light-tight package for holding a plurality of sheets of light sensitive media and wherein said transponder is disposed on the inside of said packaging.
3. The system of claim 1 wherein said transponder is disposed on the outside of said packaging.
4. The system of claim 1 wherein said packaging is light tight cartridge which includes an open tray for holding said plurality of sheet media and a resealable cover closing off said open tray.
5. The system of claim 4 wherein said transponder is disposed on an insert located at the bottom of said cartridge.
6. The system of claim 1 wherein said transponder includes a digital read/write memory and wherein said memory stores digital data representing one or more of the following, cartridge manufacturing history, cartridge recycling data, cartridge error codes.
7. The system of claim 1 wherein said transponder includes digital read/write memory and wherein said memory stores digital data representing one or more of the following, media size, initial number of media sheets in packaging, media type, media lot number, media manufacturing history, media sensitometry, media expiration date.
8. The system of claim 1 wherein said transponder includes a digital read/write memory and wherein said memory stores digital data representing one or more of the following, unique transponder ID number, packaging ID number, messages for customers, sales or service personnel, upgrade software for sheet media system.
9. The system of claim 1 wherein said transponder includes a digital read/write memory and wherein said memory stores digital data

representing one or more of the following, number of media sheets remaining; any measure system parameter, such as media calibration, image processing look-up tables, motor speeds, temperature, errors, transfer functions, system ID number, media usage, density patch tracking; any information relating to recycling of a media packaging, such as, number of times recycled, date of recycling, time from last recycle, error codes that can prevent packaging from being reused; system failures, such as, media jams, optic failure, communication problems, recalibration; times to schedule service, preventive maintenance, error fix, media supply; codes to facilitate auditing of media, packaging, customer, media system.

10. In a sheet media system including apparatus for utilizing sheet media, the invention comprising:

a plurality of sheet media to be utilized by said apparatus; and
an RFID transponder associated with said media for storing digital data relevant to said sheet media.

11. The invention of claim 10 including a transceiver in said apparatus for communicating with said transponder.

12. The invention of claim 11 including an insert for insertion in said apparatus, and wherein said transponder is associated with said insert.

13. The system of claim 1 wherein said transponder is an integral part of the package.